

DENALI NATIONAL PARK

GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS OF
DENALI PARK ROAD VEHICLE USERS

2006



Interviewer should state the following:

Date: _____

Interview Number: _____

Time: _____

Type and subtype of Denali Park Road user:

Frontcountry Camper	VTB Bus User	Lodge Bus User	Tour Bus User	Other (specify type)
	↓		↓	
	Camper Bus User		Tundra Wilderness Tour	
	General Bus User		Natural History Tour	

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Expiration Date: 04/01/2007

Interviewer Script (italicized text):

Hi, my name is _____. I'm from the University of Vermont. We're helping the National Park Service gather information to manage vehicle use on the Denali Park Road. Could I ask you a few questions about your experience while on the park road? Participation is voluntary and your responses will be anonymous.

If No: OK. Thank you for your time. Have a good day.

If Yes: It should take about 30 minutes, and I'd like to tape record our conversation so I can remember it later on. Is this OK with you?

How long did you spend traveling along the Denali Park Road today?

How far into the park did you go today? How did you decide on how far into the park you would travel?

What are the three things you enjoyed most about your time on the Denali Park Road today?

What are the three things you enjoyed least about your time on the Denali Park Road today?

Is this your first trip on the Denali Park Road?

[If first time visitor] What did you expect your trip along the Denali Park Road to be like? How did you know what to expect? Was your trip better or worse than you expected?

[If repeat visitor] How many times have you been on the Denali Park Road? When was your first trip along the Denali Park Road? How has your experience on the Denali Park Road changed over the years?

Trips on the park road include three stages: traveling along the road, stopping at rest areas, and stopping to observe wildlife. Was there anything about each of these that was important in affecting the quality of your experience today?

What are the things that you'd need to see and do to say that you've had a great visit along the Denali Park Road?

Did you feel you were in the "wilderness" during your trip along the road? Why or why not?

[For VTS and tour bus riders] Generally, there are two types of buses that park visitors use: VTS buses – the green school buses that you can get on and off of at any time– and tour buses – that follow a set program and include a narrative talk about the park. Why did you choose the type you did?

[For VTS and tour bus riders] How did your bus driver affect the quality of your experience in the park?

[For VTS and tour bus riders] Did you find anything about the bus to be especially pleasing or annoying? [Follow-up probe] Was your experience affected by the number of people on your bus? [Follow-up probe] Was your experience affected by the physical characteristics of the bus such as the type of bus, size of the bus, or condition of the bus?

Did you see any visitors walking or biking along the road or hiking off the road? [If yes] Did that affect the quality of your experience in any way?

How did the number of vehicles on the Denali Park Road affect your enjoyment of visiting the park?

Did you experience any instances in which more than one bus was stopped to observe wildlife or to use the rest areas? [If yes] Did this affect the quality of your experience in any way?

Did you feel hurried at any point during your visit? If so, why? [Follow-up probe] Did you feel hurried when you were stopped to view wildlife and other natural features?

Did you know that the National Park Service limits the number of vehicles that travel the park road between the Savage River and Kantishna to protect park resources and to maintain high quality visitor experiences? Do you think having a limit on the number of vehicles is a good idea? Why or why not?

What do you think of the overall way the National Park Service manages the Denali Park Road?

Was there anything that detracted from your wildlife viewing experience along the Denali Park Road today?

Based on your observations, do you think the type and use levels of vehicles and visitors on the Denali Park Road is having any negative effects on wildlife or other resources in the park?

Based on your observations, do you think the type and use levels of vehicles and visitors on the Denali Park Road is having any negative effects on the quality of the visitor experience?

Now to finish, would you be kind enough to fill out this brief card? It will really help us with our survey. Thank you.

Before we end, do you have anything you might like to add – anything I should have asked you about or anything you forgot to tell me?

Well, that's it! Thank you very much for your time today!

PRIVACY ACT and PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT statement:

16 U.S.C. 1a-7 authorizes collection of this information. This information will be used by park managers to better serve the public. Response to this request is voluntary. No action may be taken against you for refusing to supply the information requested. Your name is requested for follow-up mailing purposes only. When analysis of the questionnaire is completed, all name and address files will be destroyed. Thus the permanent data will be anonymous. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. **BURDEN ESTIMATE STATEMENT:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 30 minutes per response. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to:

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